

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 71

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 5

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 71—Relative to American Heart Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State February 21, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 71, Romero. American Heart Month.

This measure would recognize February 2006, as American Heart Month in California in order to raise awareness of the effect of heart disease on women. The measure would also recognize February 3, 2006, as Wear Red for Women Day in California, and urge all citizens to become aware of vital issues of women's heart health by wearing and displaying the color red on that day.

WHEREAS, Heart disease is the leading cause of death and stroke and is the third leading cause of death in California and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) is the number one cause of death for women, claiming the lives of nearly one-half a million American women each year, which is equal to nearly one death every minute; and

WHEREAS, CVD claims the lives of more women than the next six leading causes of death combined, including all cancers; and

WHEREAS, Each year, 53 percent of women die from CVD as compared to 46 percent of men, and 40,000 more women than men die from stroke; and

WHEREAS, Only 38 percent of women report that their doctors have discussed CVD with them when discussing their health; and

WHEREAS, Only 13 percent of women perceive heart disease as their greatest risk; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is the number one cause of serious, long-term disability; and

WHEREAS, Sixty-three percent of women who die suddenly from coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms of the disease; and

WHEREAS, In 2006 the estimated direct and indirect costs of heart disease and stroke total \$403.1 billion in the United States, and the economic burden in California is estimated to be over \$45 billion; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is the largest voluntary, not-for-profit organization whose mission is to reduce disability and death from heart disease and stroke; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is committed to conducting and supporting medical research that advances knowledge in the areas of prevention and treatment of CVD; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association strives to inform all citizens about the critical importance of tools and skills that will increase the survival rate of women from heart disease and stroke; and

WHEREAS, Go Red for Women is the American Heart Association's national call to increase awareness of heart disease and to inspire women to take charge of their health; and

WHEREAS, Go Red for Women educates women on their risks, warning signs, and symptoms of cardiovascular disease and empowers women to live longer and stronger lives; and

WHEREAS, Wear Red for Women Day is recognized nationwide each year to highlight the Go Red for Women campaign; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature recognizes the month of February 2006 as American Heart Month in California in order to raise awareness of the effect of heart disease on women; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature recognizes February 3, 2006, as Wear Red for Women Day in California and urges all citizens to become aware of the vital issues of women's heart health by wearing and displaying the color red on that day; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature urges public support for Go Red for Women events planned in their community during the 2006 American Heart Month; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.